

Session 1A — Reading Practice Test

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS: READING — SESSION 1A

This practice session has two reading selections and eight multiple-choice questions. Read each selection and answer the questions about it in the spaces provided in your practice test answer booklet.

Read this passage about Jell-O and then answer the questions that follow.

Jell-O

P. B. Wait was a cough syrup manufacturer in LeRoy, New York, whose business was not going very well.

So he decided to give up the cough syrup business and branch out into something new.

He picked the food industry. People eat all the time, he reasoned, while they take medicine only when they are sick.

For many years food manufacturers had experimented with gelatin, which is made from animal bones, but no one had been able to come up with a gelatin that was appealing. Gelatin looked bad, and it didn't taste very good, either.

So Mr. Wait went to work. His answer was to add fruit syrup to gelatin. He named his new product "Jell-O."

The new business had no competition, but, unfortunately, not enough people wanted to try Jell-O. So Wait ended up selling out to a cereal manufacturer.

Later the cereal man tried to sell the Jell-O business, reportedly for only \$35. And no one was interested in buying it!

8 elegant meal. About 1900 a number of cooking experts discovered Jell-O and decided it was just the thing for an elegant meal. That changed everything. Jell-O began to appear at banquets and fancy dinners. Today, Jell-O is known worldwide as a bona fide American food.

Jell-O Through the Years

1897	Pearle B. Wait develops a fruit-flavored gelatin. The name Jell-O is given to the treat by his wife, May Davis Wait. The first flavors are strawberry, raspberry, orange, and lemon.
1899	Wait sells the business to a neighbor.
1904	The Jell-O girl is introduced as the brand's first trademark through advertisements. Two new flavors, chocolate and cherry, are added to the original four flavors.
1909	The Genesee Pure Food Company posted sales earnings of over a million dollars. Four years later, that number doubled.
1912	A booklet is produced featuring six of the most famous American cooks and their Jell-O recipes.
1923	The Genesee Pure Food Company officially changes its name to the "Jell-O Company."
1936	The Jell-O brand expands by introducing Jell-O Chocolate Pudding.
1946	A shortage of Jell-O is experienced as sugar becomes scarce in the country.
1971	Jell-O pudding treats are introduced.

PLEASE GO ON ➡➡

Jell-O Trivia

- During the early quarter of the 20th century, immigrants entering Ellis Island in New York City were served Jell-O gelatin as a “Welcome to America.”
- During an airshow at the Woodward Airport, one of the contests involved having the pilot land the plane, run up to a table and eat a bowl of Jell-O and then run back to the plane and take off.
- The people of Salt Lake City consume more lime-flavored gelatin than any other city in the United States.
- During a 140-day mission to the Russian Mir space station, astronaut Shannon Lucid announces that she keeps track of the days by allowing herself to eat Jell-O each Sunday.

Choose the best answer for each multiple-choice question. Fill in the bubble next to your answer choices for questions 1 through 4 on page 2 of your practice test answer booklet. Multiple-choice questions are worth 1 point each.

- ❶ What is the **most likely** reason P. B. Wait gave up the cough syrup business?
- A. People did not buy his syrup often enough.
 - B. He did not think his syrup tasted good enough.
 - C. He did not enjoy making cough syrup by himself.
 - D. People did not think his cough syrup worked well.
- ❷ In paragraph 8, which word gives a clue to the meaning of elegant in “elegant meal”?
- A. experts
 - B. discovered
 - C. fancy
 - D. worldwide
- ❸ How did limited supplies of sugar in the United States in 1946 affect the Jell-O Company?
- A. The company lowered the price of Jell-O.
 - B. The company developed another product.
 - C. The company produced less Jell-O.
 - D. The company sold the business.
- ❹ Based on the passage, Jell-O can **best** be described as
- A. limited to a single flavor over time.
 - B. becoming more popular with time.
 - C. owned by the same person over time.
 - D. becoming less expensive with time.

PLEASE GO ON ➡

Read this poem and then answer the questions that follow.

OPEN RANGE

by Kathryn and Byron Jackson

Prairie goes to the mountain,
Mountain goes to the sky.
The sky sweeps across to the distant hills
And here, in the middle,

5 Am I.

Hills crowd down to the river,
River runs by the tree.
Tree throws its shadow on sunburnt grass
And here, in the shadow,

10 Is me.

Shadows creep up the mountain,
Mountain goes black on the sky,
The sky bursts out with a million stars
And here, by the campfire,

15 Am I.

PLEASE GO ON ➡

Choose the best answer for each multiple-choice question. Fill in the bubble next to your answer choices for questions 5 through 8 on page 2 of your practice test answer booklet. Multiple-choice questions are worth 1 point each.

- 5 In line 3, the word “sweeps” suggests that
- A. a cloud is moving across the sky.
 - B. the sky seems to stretch a long way.
 - C. a wind is blowing through the sky.
 - D. the sky keeps changing all the time.
- 6 What is **most likely** happening in line 12?
- A. The night is coming.
 - B. A storm is beginning.
 - C. The mountain is changing.
 - D. The sky is getting brighter.
- 7 Based on the poem, how does the speaker **most likely** feel?
- A. important
 - B. sad
 - C. small
 - D. worried
- 8 What is the **main** purpose of the poem?
- A. to tell a story about camping
 - B. to describe nature
 - C. to warn hikers to be prepared
 - D. to inform about the prairie



Session 1B — Reading Practice Test

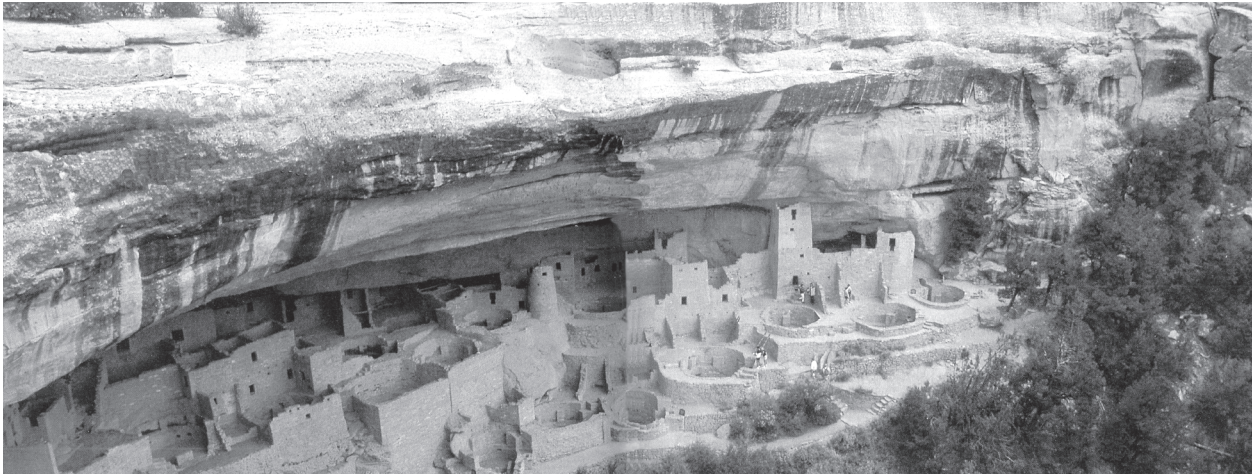
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS: READING — SESSION 1B

This practice session has one reading selection, eight multiple-choice questions, and one constructed-response question. Read the selection and answer the questions about it in the spaces provided in your practice test answer booklet.

Mysteries remain about the Cliff Dwellers of Mesa Verde. Read this passage and then answer the questions that follow.

The Ancient Cliff Dwellers of Mesa Verde

by Caroline Arnold



Cliff Palace at Mesa Verde

More than fourteen centuries ago, about A.D. 550, ancient Americans came to live in present-day Mesa Verde, Colorado. For hundreds of years these people lived and farmed on the flat mesa top. Around 1190 many of them moved into alcoves in the cliffs of narrow canyons below, where they constructed a village of stone and mud dwellings. Members of the village produced pottery, baskets, and finely crafted stone and bone tools. Many hunted and farmed. Traders from far away came with shells, cloth, and news from the outside world. It was a thriving, productive community.

Then, less than one hundred years after they had begun building in the cliffs, the people abandoned Mesa Verde, never to return. At about the same time, other groups living

in the area also left their homes and moved elsewhere.

Some Native Americans living in the Southwest today believe that the people who lived at Mesa Verde and nearby are their ancestors. They call them the Anasazi, a Navajo word meaning “the ancient ones.”

For hundreds of years after the Anasazi left Mesa Verde, their cliff dwellings remained virtually untouched. Roofs and walls slowly collapsed, and native plants grew up in the fields the Anasazi had once tilled. The nearby Navajo and Ute tribes avoided going to Mesa Verde because they believed that the spirits of the ancient ones still lived there.

In the 1770s Spanish explorers came near Mesa Verde on their way west, and they saw

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the steep slopes of the high plateau that rises sharply above the plain. They probably gave it the name Mesa Verde, which means “green table” in Spanish, but they never went onto the mesa or ventured into its canyons.

In the 1880s, conflict between Native Americans and the United States government forced most Native Americans to live on reservations. In southwestern Colorado ranchers and miners were settling



Photo by Gustaf Nordenskiöld of Balcony House, 1891

nonreservation land. They discovered numerous small cliff dwellings in the area around Mesa

Verde. Although there were stories of more cliff dwellings on Mesa Verde, that land was part of the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation, and few outsiders had seen them.

The Wetherills, a family of ranchers living in Mancos, Colorado, became friendly with the Ute and obtained permission from them to graze their cattle in Mesa Verde during the winter months. On 18 December 1888 Richard Wetherill and his brother-in-law, Charles Mason, were riding across the mesa in search of lost cattle. They came to the edge of a steep canyon, and when they looked across for their missing animals, they saw instead a complex of abandoned stone buildings wedged under the overhanging rock of the canyon wall. Some of the structures towered four stories high; others surrounded large, round pits; and in many there were remnants of pottery, baskets, and other signs that people had once lived there. The two cowboys had discovered the largest cliff ruin in Mesa Verde, Cliff Palace, a village that had once housed more than two hundred people. 7

When news of the cliff dwellings was made public, many people came to see them. Among them was Gustaf Nordenskiöld, a Swedish citizen who conducted the first systematic investigation of Mesa Verde in 1891.



Cutaway view of a reconstructed pithouse

PLEASE GO ON ➡

Nordenskiöld wrote and published detailed descriptions of what he found at Mesa Verde. He also took photographs that provide us with important information about the condition of the ruins at that time.

In recent years survey teams have crisscrossed the Mesa Verde park terrain to locate additional sites of archeological importance. These include the remains of buildings, fire pits, and farming and irrigation projects. Nearly four thousand sites have been found, including the remains of more than six

hundred cliff dwellings. The oldest of these, built between A.D. 550 and 750, were called pithouses because the floors were formed by digging shallow pits into the ground. A hole in the roof of the pithouse was both an entrance and a place for smoke to escape. Some pithouses also had a second small chamber, which was used for storage. The remains of several pithouses are often found together, indicating that families preferred to live in small villages.

Choose the best answer for each multiple-choice question. Fill in the bubble next to your answer choices for questions 9 through 16 on page 3 of your practice test answer booklet. Multiple-choice questions are worth 1 point each.

- 9 What does the first illustration show about the Cliff Palace in Mesa Verde?
- A. It was a thriving, productive community.
 - B. It was an important center of trade.
 - C. It was the smallest dwelling in Mesa Verde.
 - D. It was built into the cliff of a canyon.
- 10 What is the **main** purpose of the first paragraph?
- A. to explain how the ancient cliff dwellings were discovered
 - B. to help readers imagine the beauty of the ancient cliff dwellings
 - C. to introduce readers to the way the ancient cliff dwellers lived
 - D. to explain why the ancient cliff dwellers decided to leave the area
- 11 Why did the Navajo and the Ute tribes avoid Mesa Verde for hundreds of years after the Anasazi left the area?
- A. They believed the spirits of the Anasazi still lived there.
 - B. The United States government warned them not to go near there.
 - C. Spanish explorers warned them about the crumbling ruins.
 - D. Ranchers would bother them if they entered the area.
- 12 In the 1880s, what was the **main** reason that so few people went to Mesa Verde?
- A. Not many people lived in southwestern Colorado.
 - B. The United States government had closed off the region.
 - C. The land was part of the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation.
 - D. Most people were not interested in learning about the Anasazi people.

PLEASE GO ON ➡

13 Paragraph 7 states that “there were remnants of pottery, baskets, and other signs that people had once lived there.” The word remnants means

- A. shelves.
- B. pieces.
- C. boxes.
- D. drawings.

14 Why was Gustaf Nordenskiöld important to Mesa Verde?

- A. He worked with Spanish explorers to name the area.
- B. He wrote the first detailed descriptions of the Mesa Verde ruins.
- C. He was the first outsider to discover the ruins of the Cliff Palace.
- D. He was the only person allowed to graze cattle in Mesa Verde.

15 Archeologists know that the Anasazi people lived in small villages because

- A. they found notes the Anasazi people wrote about their small villages.
- B. they have been told that the Anasazi people liked small villages.
- C. they found remains of the Anasazi pithouses close together.
- D. they found drawings of pithouses that the Anasazi people left behind.

16 Based on the information in this passage, which statement **best** describes the culture of the Anasazi people?

- A. They were warlike and would attack their neighbors.
- B. They preferred to live far apart from each other.
- C. They lived in an active and close community.
- D. They were better hunters than they were farmers.

PLEASE GO ON ➡

Write your answer to constructed-response question 17 in the box provided on page 3 of your practice test answer booklet. Constructed-response questions are worth up to 4 points each.

- 17** Describe the cliff dwellings of the Anasazi people. Use information from the passage and the illustrations as support.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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